

10 March 2025

IC-366003-K8B9

Request

On 12 February 2025 you requested “any relevant guidance or internal policies the ICO applies when deciding to postpone or expedite publication around key political events (such as general elections)”

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Response

We do not hold any guidance or internal policies that specifically address the situations you have described (ie decisions to postpone or expedite publication). However we do hold more general guidance that guides our work on publication and other activities in relation to political events.

During elections we align with the government’s [election guidance for civil servants](#) and the attached political activities policy offers guidance to staff about engaging in political activities while working at the ICO. We also published [this guidance](#) for the most recent general election in the UK.

More general guidance that may be relevant includes our [social media use policy](#), [consultation policy](#), and the two attached pieces of internal guidance, which have been provided as these are not already available on our website.

Technically any information that is already accessible to you is exempt in accordance with Section 21 of the FOIA, but we have provided links for your reference.

If you want to make a request about publication of particular information, or anything relating to a specific political event, please provide details so that we can consider this as a new request.

This concludes our response to your request.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full [review procedure](#) on our website.

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint](#) through our website.

Your information

Our [privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and sets out [your rights](#). Our [Retention and Disposal Policy](#) details how long we keep information.

Yours sincerely



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